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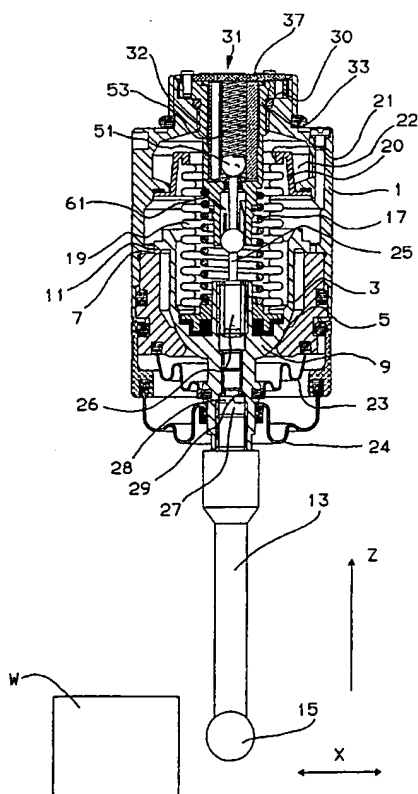
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(54) Title: TOUCH PROBE COMPRISING A SWITCH WITH CONTACTS PROTECTED BY INERT GAS



(57) Abstract: A touch probe with an arm (13) coupled to a movable arm-set (3) supported in a casing (1) includes an electric switch (31) with a housing (33) fixed to the casing and a mechanical transmission device (61) for mechanically transmitting displacements of the arm, and causing the disengagement of a conductive small ball (51) from two stationary conductive bars (44,45), thereby opening an electric detecting circuit. At the interior of the probe casing, a sealingly closed chamber houses the switch and is filled with inert gas, for example nitrogen, for protecting the electric contacts.

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